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EQ1806

8 November 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Contracting Officer

SUBJECT : Minicard Equipment

25X1 1 Herewith is a memorandum prepared by [] 25X1
 25X1 and [] which covers a number of points including their recommended
 25X1 list of Minicard equipment. I understand that, subject to some disagreement
 25X1 on the P-2 camera, this list reflects the views not only of [] 25X1
 25X1 and [] but also of Eastman. On this understanding, [] and 25X1
 I have approved it.

25X1 2. You will note that the estimated price of the whole list is 25X1
 25X1 [] It is assumed that some [] toward this total cost will be 25X1
 chargeable to the AQUATONE budget leaving [] chargeable to an 25X1
 Office of Photo Interpretation (OPI) budget. This is some [] more 25X1
 than the estimate contained in the memorandum sent forward to the Director,
 which will be corrected to reflect this larger sum. The question of the
 25X1 P-2 camera remains open until we have an opportunity to review this matter
 with []

3. Under the heading of "Unresolved Issues", the first item
 (requirements for positive transparencies, dup negatives, and prints) was
 discussed but no conclusions could be arrived at. It was our consensus
 that we may want as many as four or five transparencies plus three or
 four prints. These numbers, together with the original negative, would
 add up to more than the total of seven copies on which our planning has
 been based. The possibility of this larger requirement need not pose any
 financial problem since we can charge our customers for copies in access
 of one. It might, however, overstrain the facility currently planned by
 Eastman. It will take some time before these requirements can be finally
 crystallized. Meanwhile, we should discover the capacity of the processing
 (not Minicard) equipment that is being installed by Eastman, allowing for
 two- or three- shift operation.

25X1 4. It has been intimated to us several times by both Messrs.
 [] that Eastman might be prepared to build and to furnish on
 a rental basis some or all of the Minicard equipment while retaining title
 in the Eastman Company. We agreed in the course of our meeting that such
 an arrangement would be highly desirable from the standpoint of the Agency
 at least for a one-year period. This could be regarded as an experimental
 period which we on our side would learn what volume of material we were
 going to have to handle, and the company on its side could modify and improve
 the equipment. This is a matter which should be explored definitively
 with them.

DOCUMENT NO. _____
 NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☒
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 CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S G
 NEXT REVIEW DATE: 2012
 AUTH: HR 70-2
 DATE: 3/2/12 REVIEWER: []

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25X1

5. I would appreciate it if you would undertake the following three assignments in this matter:

(a) Extract from Eastman a firm proposal for the attached list (both with and without the P-2 camera). In this connection you should note that the figures for miscellaneous equipment and for systems were merely copied from earlier lists and you should also note that the cost of viewers in this list is 50 to 100 percent higher than their cost per unit in earlier lists. These matters should be clarified.

(b) Explore with Eastman the capacity and flexibility of their processing equipment to produce different positive transparencies, dup negatives, and positive prints. At a later stage, we will wish to develop a cost for each type of additional copy.

(c) Determine whether Eastman is prepared to install any or all of this equipment in Washington while retaining title to it and to charge a rental for its use for a period of one year.

25X1 (d) Arrange with Eastman for a meeting at a suitable time with [] to crystallize the whole plan and to settle the question of the P-2 camera.

6. As to the number of copies that will be required, I venture the opinion that few if any of our customers will wish to receive, or will be able to handle, full sets--that is, copies of all usable photography. Instead, I suggest they will wish to look at plots or other catalogues and order what they want, at retail as it were. This would reduce the burden on the Eastman facility and the cost of film but would require us to be in a position to produce positive and negative transparencies and prints promptly and in sizable numbers from the original negatives in our possession. Accordingly, I have asked [] to investigate the equipment that 25X1 will be required to give us this capability and then to try to estimate the cost of such equipment.

/s/ Richard M. Bissell, Jr.
/t/ RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Project Director

Attachment

cc: []

25X1 RMB:gjg (7 Nov 55) Cy 1 - Fwd
2 - []
3 - RMB Chrono
4 - Proj Subj
5 - Chrono
6 - Reading

25X1 This copy: Finance

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